

Amendments to the Claims:

Please replace all prior claims versions and listings with the following:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A cement composition for plugging a ceramic honeycomb consisting essentially of a plastically shapeable blend comprising, the blend consisting essentially of one or more a-ceramic powders selected from the group consisting of cordierite, silicon carbide, silicon nitride, aluminum titanate, calcium aluminate and mixtures thereof, a water-soluble alkali metal silicate, and water.

2. (currently amended) A cement composition in accordance with claim 1 wherein the blend is ~~essentially~~ free of ceramic reinforcing fibers.

3. (original) A cement composition in accordance with claim 1 wherein the alkali metal silicate is potassium silicate.

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A cement in accordance with claim 1 wherein the blend consists essentially of ceramic powder and an aqueous alkali metal silicate solution.

6.-10 (canceled)

11. (new) A plugged silicon carbide, silicon nitride, aluminum titanate, or cordierite ceramic honeycomb incorporating plugs of the cement composition of claim 1.